

REMARKS

Claims 1-48 were pending. By way of the amendment, claims 4, 12, 15-17, 21, 25, 33, 36-38, 42, and 43 have been amended to correct multiple claim dependencies as noted by the Examiner in the restriction requirement dated December 21, 2007. Claims 1-48 will remain pending upon entry of this amendment.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner first stated that the Applicants must elect invention I drawn to method(s) and invention II drawn to apparatus. The Examiner also stated the Applicants must first elect a species from C, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, N, O, or P. The Examiner further stated that the Applicants must further elect Species A, B, or D if they elected Species C, E, F, or G. Finally the Examiner stated the Applicants must further elect Species L or M. Applicants elect invention **I**, Species **C**, **D**, and **L** without traverse. Applicants respectfully contend that claims **1-21** encompass the elected invention and species.

Claim Objections

The Examiner noted that claims 8-12, 15-21, 28-33, and 36-48 would be objected under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being improper because a multiple dependent claim is dependent on another multiple dependent claim. Applicants have amended claims 4, 12, 15-17, 21, 25, 33, 36-38, 42, and 43 to overcome these potential claim objections. Applicants respectfully contend these claim objections are traversed.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully contend that the pending claims are allowable over the art of record. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to contact the undersigned Attorney prior to the issuance of a prior art rejection.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-1119** referencing docket no. **END001US**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: March 20, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



By
Merle W. Richman, III
Registration No.: 38,282

PO Box 3333
La Jolla, California 92038-3333
(858) 551-2030

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited electronically via www.uspto.gov.

Typed Name: Merle Richman

Signature:  _____

Date: March 20, 2008 _____